The American Pageant Chapter 13 Reading Guide

**Vocabulary**

Corrupt bargain

Spoils system

Tariff of Abominations

Nullification Crisis

Compromise Tariff of 1833

Force Bill

Indian Removal Act

Trail of Tears

Black Hawk War

Bank War

Anti-Masonic Party

Pet banks

Specie Circular

Panic of 1837

Alamo

Goliad

Battle of San Jacinto

**Reading Questions**

1. Describe the Election of 1824: who runs, who wins, and why is the result called a “corrupt bargain?”

2. Why is John Quincy Adams called a “minority president?”

3. What issues haunt Adams’ presidency? (Look at his ideas on patronage and his policy views)

4. How do Adams’ and Jackson’s supporters stoop low in the mudslinging of the 1828 campaign?

5. Describe Andrew Jackson’s background. How did that shape his character as president?

6. How does Andrew Jackson defend the spoils system? How does the spoils system lead to scandal?

7. Why do the Southerners react so angrily to the Tariff of 1828?

8. Who leads a slave rebellion in Charleston, South Carolina is 1822, and why does this worry Southerners?

9. Who writes the South Carolina Exposition? What is the pamphlet about?

10. Describe the Nullification Crisis in South Carolina.

11. What two bills are passed in response to the Nullification Crisis, one a compromise, and the other a stern warning to South Carolina?

12. Describe the ways the Cherokee attempted to assimilate themselves into the United States during the early 1800s.

13. Describe the Indian Removal Act. How did the American government deal with Native Americans that resisted?

14. Why did Andrew Jackson dislike the Bank of the United States?

15. Describe the events of the Bank War and describe the roles of Henry Clay and Andrew Jackson in this event.

16. What is the significance of Andrew Jackson’s veto message of the National Bank?

17. What new party emerges in the Election of 1832, and what is the party centered around? Who are the two major candidates in this election, and who wins?

18. How does Andrew Jackson go about killing the Bank of the United States in 1833?

19. Describe the significance of the pet banks and “wildcat” banks.

20. What is the Specie Circular, and what problems does it cause?

21. What issues join the Whig Party together in the 1830s, and who are the leaders of the party at first?

22. What are the causes of the Panic of 1837?

23. What is the purpose of the Divorce Bill pressed by President Martin Van Buren?

24. What causes Americans to want to settle in Texas in the 1820s and 1830s?

25. How does the issue of slavery cause friction between the Mexicans and the Texans?

26. Describe the major battles of the Texas Revolution. (Alamo, Goliad, San Jacinto)

27. When Texas wins their independence, how does this put the United States government in a sticky situation?

28. What is the Whigs’ and William Henry Harrison’s strategy in the Election of 1840? Who wins the election?

29. Describe how America has changed in favor of the “common man” by the 1840s.

30. Describe the similarities and differences between the Democrats and the Whigs as America enters the 1840s.